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SOURCE As indicated

THE GDR GARRISONED PEOPLE'S POLICE

[The information in this report was obtained from three West German documents: "Die Kasernierte Volkspolizei in der Sowjetischen Besatzungszone Deutschlands" (The Garrisoned People's Police in the Soviet Zone of Germany), published by the Press and Information Office of the Federal Ministry for All-German Problems; "Die Bewaffneten Streitkraefte in der Sowjetzone" (The Armed Forces in the Soviet Zone), published by the Informationsbuero West (Information Office West); and an article by Dr Heinrich v. zur Muehlen in SBZ Archiv, 20 June 1954.

The report includes information on the organization and structure of the People's Police, and the pay scale, daily diet, and daily schedule of People's Police members.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

The People's Police (Volkspolizei) in the GDR is divided into two distinct parts: the VP (Volkspolizei), which has the police function, and the KVP (Kasernierte Volkspolizei), which is a military force. Both parts are subordinate to the Ministry of Interior. The Ministry of Interior is divided into (a) the Staff of the KVP; (b) the State Secretariat for Internal Affairs; and (c) the State Secretariat for State Security.

The Main Administration of the [regular] German People's Police (HVDVP) belongs to the State Secretariat for Internal Affairs and has the following components: regular uniformed police, criminal police, traffic police, inland waterways police, passports and registrations, and factory protection.

The staff of the KVP, on the other hand, is directly responsible to the Ministry of Interior. The staff is in actuality the chief command of the sea, air, and ground forces which make up the KVP.(1)

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Some of the chief personnel of the staff are listed in the following table:

Chief of the KVP	Lt Gen Karl-Heinz Hoffmann
Chief of staff of the KVP	Gen Vincenz Mueller
Deputy chief of staff	Maj Gen Bernhard Bechler
Chief of the "Verwaltung fuer Lehranstalten" (Administration of Schools, cover name for officer school)	Maj Gen Fritz Johnen
Chief of the "Verwaltung fuer B-Versorgung" (Administration of B-Supply, cover name for artillery inspectorate)	Maj Gen Hans Wulz
Chief of the "Fachverwaltung fuer schnelle Truppen" (Special Administration of Speed Troops [possibly shock troops])	Maj Gen Arno von Lenski
Chief of the Political Administration and Deputy Minister of Interior	Maj Gen Rudolf Doelling (2)

The State Secretariat for State Security is responsible not only for all organs dealing with state security on GDR, Bezirk, and Kreis levels, but also for the Main Administration of the German Border Police (HVDGP), with 21 border alert units. (1) The chief is Gen-Lt Hermann Garthmann; strength is about 20,000 (2). The secretariat is also responsible for the Main Administration for the Transport Police. (1) Its chief is Inspector General Auerswald (fnu), and its approximate strength is 5,000. (2) Until May 1952, the border police was subordinated to the HVDVP; however, after the establishment of the restricted zone along the demarcation line and the Baltic Sea Coast, the border police was placed under the Ministry for State Security, which is now known as the State Secretariat for State Security.

Ground Forces

At present, there are two army groups, each using the cover name, Territorial Administration (TVW). Their corps strength is approximately as follows:

1. Army Group North (TVW 4,000), staff headquarters at Pasewalk; chief, Maj Gen Hermann Rentzsch; strength, 50,000 men.

Army Group North consists of three divisions (cover name, Bereitschaft, alert unit): Schwerin, Prenzlau, and Eggesin. Each division is composed of three infantry regiments (cover name, Kommando), one artillery regiment, one to two tank regiments, and mortar, antiaircraft, motorcycle-riflemen, and engineer units. The authorized strength of a division is approximately 12,000 men.

2. Army Group South (TVW 6,000), staff headquarters at Leipzig; chief, Maj Gen Kurt Vogel; strength, 40,000 men.

Army Group South consists of the Halle, Erfurt, and Dresden divisions.

Among the operational task forces of the KVP which are not within either of the army groups, so-called KVPDs (Kasernierte Volkspolizei Dienststellen, Garrisoned People's Police Stations) are included. These specialized task forces are the following: tank regiments in Burg (near Magdeburg) and in Spremberg; artillery regiments in Erfurt-Nenne, Gloewen, and Zittau; antiaircraft regiments in Kirchmoeser (near Brandenburg), Gotha, and Zittau; and infantry regiments in Gera and Weissenfels.

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In addition, there are combined arms units which are composed of infantry battalions, artillery battalions, and tank, antiaircraft, and antitank companies. These combined arms units are stationed in Frankenberg, Halle, Leipzig, Muehlhausen, Marienberg, and Gotha.

The KVP also has the following officer training schools (cover name, Lehranstalt, [academy]): for infantry officers in Doebeln, Erfurt (Loeberfeld barracks), and Naumburg; for artillery officers in Dresden and Torgau; for tank officers in Erfurt (Steiger barracks), Grossenhain, and Zeithain; for antiaircraft officers in Oranienburg (near Berlin); for communications officers in Pirna and Halle; for engineering officers in Dessau-Alten; for officers of motorized units in Halle; for ordnance officers in Pirna; for administrative officers in Erfurt-Petersberg; for staff officers in Dresden; for political officers in Berlin-Treptow; for officers serving as interpreters in Holzdorf (near Weimar); and for officers in charge of sports in Potsdam.

Directly responsible to the Ministry of Interior is a special division (Einsatzdivision), which is a completely motorized unit with headquarters at the Jaeger barracks, Stalinallee, Potsdam. The chief of this unit is Maj Gen Werner Pilz. The first mechanized regiment in Oranienburg, the second mechanized regiment in Potsdam, and the third mechanized regiment in Hohenstuecken, near Brandenburg, belong to this division.

Also directly responsible to the Ministry is the Guard Regiment of the Ministry of Interior (Wachregiment des MdI). This regiment is stationed in Berlin-Biesdorf.(1)

Supply depots of the KVP (cover name, Rueckwaertige Dienste Rear Services) are located in Wolfsruh near Gransee (ammunition depot), in Doberlug (ordnance depot), in Pressen on the Elbe (central supply depot), and in Klus, near Teterow (ammunition depot).(2)

The total manpower strength of the KVP ground forces amounted to about 110,000 men in early January 1954.

Naval Forces

The VP-See (People's Sea Police) is headed by Vice-Adm Waldemar Verner.(1) The chief of staff is Rear Adm Heinz Neukirchen. Headquarters is in Parow.(2)

The units of the VP-See include: a naval unit (Schiffsstammabteilung) in Kuehlungsborn, a salvaging and mine-sweeping unit in Sassnitz, a submarine school in Sassnitz-Darsin, a fleet base in Peenemuende (the latter includes a coast-guard division and a mine-laying and mine-sweeping division), a weapons arsenal in Wolgast, a naval officer's school in Stralsund-Schwedenschanze, a training-ship fleet in Parow, and a signal communications school [possibly an intelligence school] in Stubbenkammer.(1) The VP-See also includes a naval construction school in Wolgast, a sea police school in Parow, an engineer company in Sassnitz, a naval engineering school in Kuehlungsborn, and a communications network all along the Baltic Sea coast.(2)

The VP-See at present has 50 armed vessels, which are equipped with 2-centimeter and 3.7-centimeter antiaircraft guns.

The total strength of the VP-See amounted to 9,000 men at the beginning of 1954.(1)

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The VP-Luft (People's Air Police), the cover name of which is Aero Club, has its headquarters at Cottbus. The chief is Maj Gen Heinz Kessler, (1) the chief of staff is Maj Gen Heinz Zorn.(2)

The VP-Luft at present has one air division, with headquarters in Cottbus, and has air regiments in Cottbus, Drewitz, and Bautzen. The air-technical supply division has its headquarters in Augustusbad near Dresden. There are supply units in Cottbus, Drewitz, and Bautzen.(1) Further, there is a flight officer school in Pirna-Sonnenstein, an air-technical school in Kamenz, and a central supply depot in Goerlitz.(2)

The airfields at Cottbus, Drewitz, Bautzen, and Kamenz are used for pilot training.(1) Airfields are under construction at Kaltwasser and Forst.(2)

The VP-Luft has approximately 60 fighter planes of the Jagd YAK 18 type and several UL-2 training planes. The total strength of VP-Luft at the beginning of January 1954 was approximately 5,000 men.

Equipment

The arms of the KVP originally consisted only of old Wehrmacht weapons but are gradually being replaced with Soviet arms.(1)

The equipping of KVP units with Soviet hand and automatic weapons (7.65 pistols, carbines, submachine guns, light and heavy machine guns) has been completed. There is also no shortage of medium mortars (82 mm). Delivery of heavy arms continues. The authorized basic allowance apparently has been reached only with respect to 76-millimeters and 122-millimeter guns. The equipping of artillery regiments of the army groups with guns of larger caliber is supposed to have been started. Of approximately 1,000 tanks required by the various KVP tank units (including training units and schools), about 750 have probably been delivered. Still lacking are Stalin II tanks and self-propelled artillery mounts. There is also a shortage of antitank guns and heavy anti-aircraft guns. This explains why the antitank and anti-aircraft companies of the regiments are not uniformly armed. However, it can be assumed that these gaps will be filled before the end of 1954.(3)

About one sixth of the annual budget of the GDR (approximately 5 billion DM) are expended on the KVP.

Former Wehrmacht Officers in KVP

Many former officers of the Wehrmacht now hold high positions in the KVP. Among them are Lt Gen Vincenz Mueller, now chief of staff of the KVP, who was deputy commander of the Fourth Army during World War II and who was responsible for giving the order in 1944 for the annihilation of the Jewish population in the Artemovsk region of the Don Basin; Maj Gen Walter Freytag, a former Wehrmacht general during World War II; Maj Gen Bernhard Bechler, a former Wehrmacht major and regimental commander; Maj Gen Heinrich Heitsch, a former Wehrmacht major; Maj Gen Dr Otto Korfes, a former Wehrmacht major general; Maj Gen Arno von Lenski, a former Wehrmacht lieutenant general; Maj Gen Hans Wulz, a former Wehrmacht major general; and Maj Gen Helmuth Borufka, a former Wehrmacht captain.

Political and SSD officers and "Sovietniks"

Each line officer in the KVP has a political officer assigned to him. Without the latter's consent, no report may be made, no orders may be given, and no leaves granted. Political officers are found in every unit of the KVP. They

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are responsible for the political indoctrination of the unit and for the ideological consistency of officers, noncommissioned officers, and enlisted men. In practice, these political officers are the real commanders of the troops, since their influence and authority are almost limitless.

For instance, the political section of a KVP unit consists of the following political officers: chief of the political administration, secretary of the party control commission, chief instructor and party secretary, organization instructor, first and second propagandists, youth-activities aide and FDJ (Free German Youth) secretary, instructor for records and treasurer, club leader, librarian, and motion-picture technician.

These political officers are responsible to the political section of their unit; their highest authority is the Political Administration in the Ministry of Interior. The chief of the Political Administration is Maj Gen Rudolf Doelling, who is also a member of the Central Committee of the SED.

In addition to the political officers, each KVP unit has an SSD (State Security Service) liaison officer, whose task it is to watch all KVP members and spy on them. These SSD officers are responsible directly to the State Secretariat for State Security.

In addition, each KVP unit has a Soviet "consultant," who is known as the "Sovietnik." The Sovietniks are regular officers of the Soviet Army, Navy, or Air Force, and are responsible for seeing that all KVP training follows the Soviet pattern. They wear regular KVP uniforms. They make the final decisions in all military matters, and they are kept informed by each commander of the progress in military and political training. The "Sovietniks" are responsible to General Makarov (fnu), chief of the Military Section of the Soviet High Commission, and they meet with him once a month in Karlshorst for new instructions.

KVP Pay Scale

The pay of enlisted men rests on a base pay stipulated in the pay regulations and is increased according to the years of service.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Basic Monthly Pay of Enlisted Men (in DM)</u>
Private	300
Lance corporal (Gefreiter, grade between private and corporal)	330
Sergeant	370
Technical sergeant	400
Master sergeant	450

An additional 75 DM per month is paid to the enlisted men in charge of quarters. Longevity pay for all enlisted ranks is as follows: after 3 years of duty, 5 percent of base pay; after 5 years, 8 percent; after 10 years, 10 percent; and after 15 years, 15 percent.

Only 50 percent of an enlisted man's gross pay is subject to income tax. Men holding ranks through sergeant who serve more than 3 years receive 25 DM quarters allowance. A monthly quarters allowance of 30 DM is paid to higher ranking personnel, up to and including master, sergeants. Clothing and food are free.

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The pay of an officer is dependent on his rank and position. Officers are taxed only on that part of their pay which is based on their rank. The pay increment determined by the officer's position assignment should correspond at least to the pay which he receives for his rank, but should not be less than 400 Deutsche marks. The highest position pay increment is 2,500 Deutsche marks (which is paid to a commander of a more important KVP school).

Pay Scale of Officers According to Rank

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Pay per Month (in DM)</u>
Sublieutenant	300
Second Lieutenant	350
First lieutenant	400
Captain	450
Major	600
Lieutenant colonel	700
Colonel	800
Major general	3,000 (approximate)
Lieutenant general	4,000 (approximate)

Officers also receive a monthly quarters allowance (in DM) as follows:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Allowance</u>
Sublieutenant through captain	35
Major and lieutenant colonel	40
Colonel	50

Flying personnel of the VP-Luft receive [in addition to their salary] monthly flight pay of 300 DM.

Food Rations

A uniform daily diet has been set for all members of the KVP. These daily rations are much higher than those of civilian consumers in the GDR.

Daily Rations of a KVP Member

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount (in g)</u>
Bread	1,000
Butter, fats	120
Meat or sausage	150
Dry milk	25
Vegetables	400

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount (in g)</u>
Potatoes	1,000
Sugar	30 - 50
Marmelade	30 - 50
Other foodstuffs	200

Airmen and sailors get special rations.

Daily Schedule

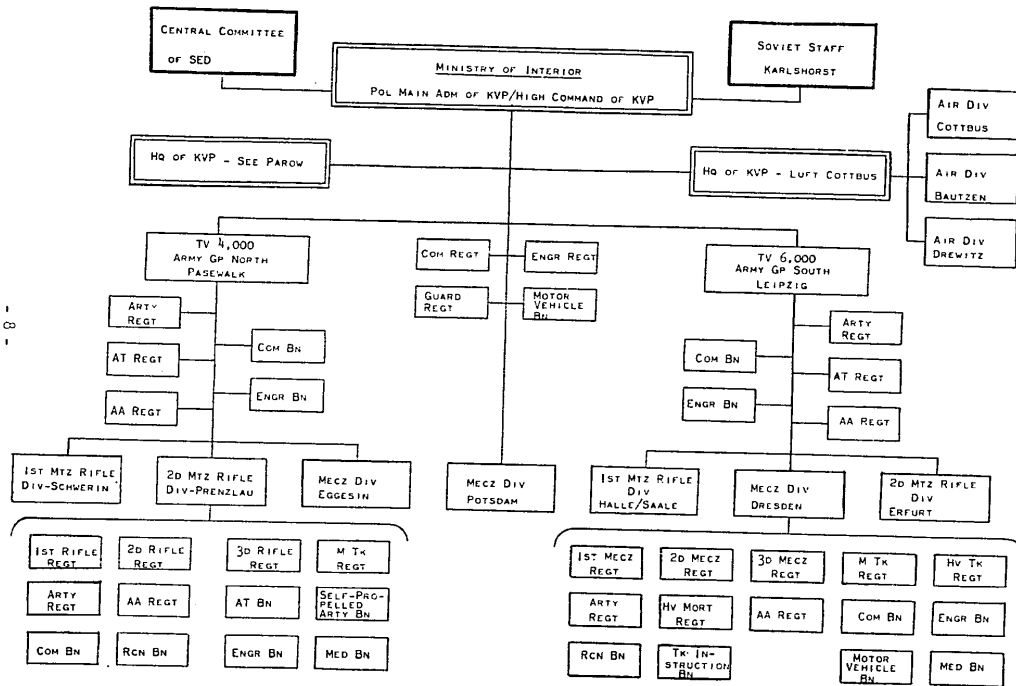
Below is an average daily schedule for KVP personnel at an officer candidate school:

0600	Reveille
0605 - 0620	Calisthenics
0620 - 0650	Wash, make beds, clean quarters
0650 - 0720	Breakfast for companies 1 through 4 Political information for companies 5 through 8
0725 - 0755	Breakfast for companies 5 through 8 Political information for companies 1 through 4
0755 - 0805	Morning roll call
0810 - 1245	Classes
1255 - 1315	Midday meal for companies 1 through 4 Cleaning of weapons for companies 5 through 8
1350 - 1430	Midday meal for companies 5 through 8 Cleaning of weapons for companies 1 through 4
1500 - 1740	Classes
1750 - 1830	Evening meal for companies 1 through 4 Study of newspapers for companies 5 through 8 (Wednesday and Friday, cleaning of weapons)
1835 - 1945	Evening meal for companies 5 through 8 Study of newspapers for companies 1 through 4 (Wednesday and Friday, cleaning of weapons)
1945 - 2145	Cultural work, study groups
2230	Evening roll call
2235 - 2250	Evening walk
2300	Taps, bed check (1)

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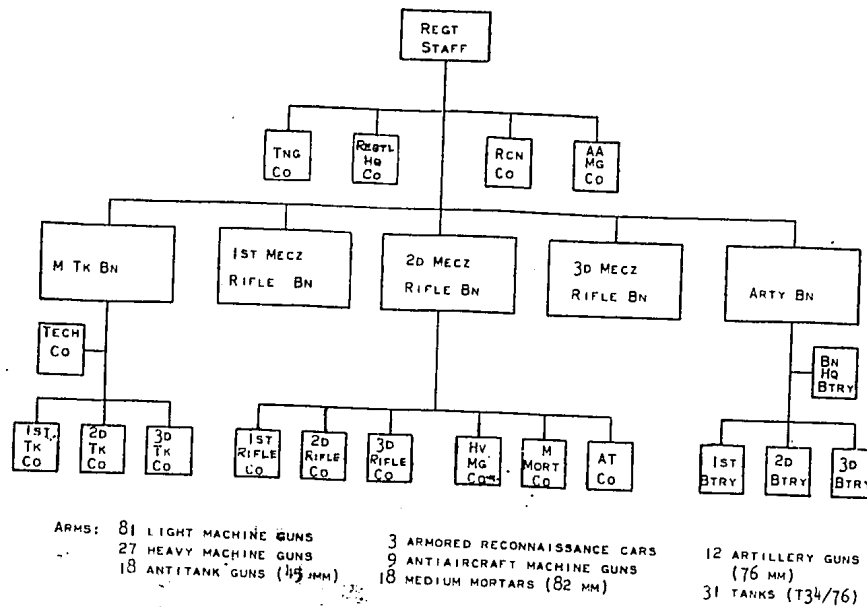
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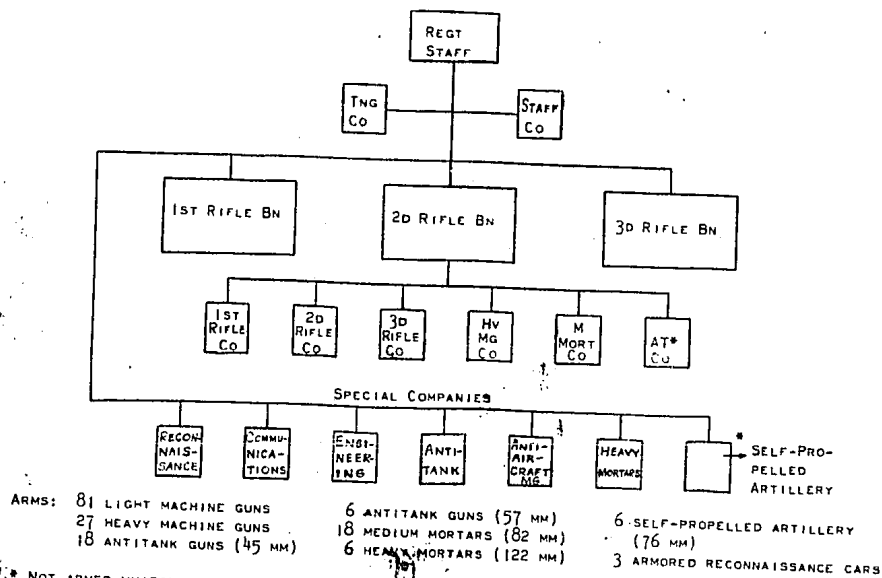
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ORGANIZATION OF A MECHANIZED REGIMENT



ORGANIZATION OF A MOTORIZED INFANTRY REGIMENT



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SOURCES

1. Bonn, Die Kasernierte Volkspolizei in der Sowjetischen Besatzungszone Deutschlands, undated
2. Berlin, Die bewaffneten Streitkraefte in der Sowjetzone, 11 Jan 54
3. Cologne, SBZ Archiv, 20 Jun 54 .

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